

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (original): A call processing method, comprising the steps of:
2 operating a telephone switch to detect receipt of an incoming
3 telephone call on a subscriber telephone line;
4 in response to detecting an incoming telephone call on the subscriber
5 telephone line, operating the telephone switch to transmit a message to a service
6 control point indicating receipt of a call on the subscriber telephone line;
7 operating the service control point to transmit a message to a first
8 computer in response to the message transmitted by said telephone switch; and
9 operating the first computer to select a first party to service the
10 incoming call.

1 Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 operating the first computer to determine the availability of the first
3 party to service the incoming call by contacting a second computer, the second
4 computer being associated with the first party.

1 Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 2, wherein the second computer is coupled to
2 a first telephone device by a communications link which supports computer and
3 telephone interaction, the step of operating the first computer to determine the
4 availability of the first party including:
5 obtaining telephone device status information from the second
6 computer.

1 Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 3, further comprising:
2 operating the first computer to send call related information to the
3 second computer.

1 Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 4, further comprising:

2 operating the first computer to send a first telephone number
3 corresponding to the first telephone device to the service control point; and
4 operating the service control point to instruct the telephone switch to
5 complete the incoming call using the first telephone number as the destination
6 telephone number.

1 Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 5, wherein the first telephone number is
2 different from a telephone number used to route the incoming call to said subscriber
3 telephone line.

1 Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 operating the first computer to determine from a second computer if a
3 telephone line associated with the first party is busy.

1 Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 7, wherein determining from the second
2 computer if the telephone line is busy includes using a telephone application
3 programming interface to obtain telephone line status information.

1 Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 7, further comprising:
2 in response to detecting that said telephone line is busy:
3 controlling the second computer to display a plurality of call
4 disposition options; and
5 operating the first computer to receive call disposition selection
6 information from the second computer system.

1 Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the received call disposition
2 information includes a telephone number to which the incoming call should be
3 completed, the method further comprising the step of:

4 transmitting the received telephone number to the service control
5 point.

1 Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 10, further comprising:
2 operating the service control point to transmit the received telephone
3 number to the telephone switch; and
4 operating the telephone switch to complete the call to the telephone
5 line corresponding to the received telephone number.

1 Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 11, the method further comprising:
2 transmitting call related data to a third computer, the third computer
3 being associated with a party to whom the received telephone number corresponds.

1 Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the received call disposition
2 information includes a telephone number, the method further comprising:
3 operating the first computer to use the received telephone number to
4 identify a third computer; and
5 transmitting to the third computer call related data.

1 Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 13, further comprising:
2 transmitting the received telephone number to the service control
3 point;
4 operating the service control point to transmit the received telephone
5 number to the telephone switch; and
6 operating the telephone switch to complete the call to the telephone
7 line corresponding to the received telephone number.

1 Claim 15 (original): A communications system comprising:

2 a telephone switch including trigger circuitry for detecting calls to a
3 first telephone line on which a trigger is set, a first telephone number being associated
4 with the first telephone line;

5 a first subscriber telephone device coupled to the telephone switch by
6 the first telephone line;

7 a first computer coupled to the first subscriber telephone device by a
8 communications link which supports the transmission of TAPI signals between the
9 first computer and the first subscriber telephone device; and

10 a second computer system coupled to the telephone switch and to the
11 first computer, the second computer including a routine for determining, as a function
12 of telephone line status information obtained from the first computer, a telephone
13 number to be used to complete the routing of calls to the first telephone line which are
14 detected by said trigger circuitry.

1 Claim 16 (original): The system of claim 15, further comprising:

2 a service control point for coupling the telephone switch to the second
3 computer system.

1 Claim 17 (original): The system of claim 15, where said trigger circuitry is
2 terminating attempt trigger circuitry.

1 Claim 18 (original): The system of claim 17, further comprising:

2 a first Internet Protocol based computer network for coupling the first
3 computer to the second computer.

1 Claim 19 (original): The system of claim 18, further comprising:

2 a second Internet Protocol based computer network for coupling the
3 second computer to the service control point; and

4 wherein the second computer system includes a routine for controlling
5 the transmission of call related data to the first computer system over said first
6 Internet Protocol based computer network.

1 Claim 20 (original): The system of claim 19, further comprising;
2 a signaling system seven communications link for coupling the service
3 control point to said telephone switch.

1 Claim 21 (currently amended): A communications method, comprising:
2 triggering, in response to an incoming call, a terminating attempt
3 trigger set on a first telephone service subscriber line corresponding to a service
4 subscriber telephone number;
5 contacting a service control point for call processing instructions in
6 response to triggering of the terminating attempt trigger;
7 operating the service control point to transmit a message including the
8 service subscriber telephone number to a first computer;
9 operating the first computer to select a party to service said incoming
10 call;
11 operating a the first computer to contact a second computer to
12 determine the status of a telephone line coupled to the second computer system; and
13 performing a call routing operation as a function of the determined
14 status of the telephone line coupled to the second computer system.

1 Claim 22 (original): The method of claim 21, wherein performing a call routing
2 operation includes:
3 operating the first computer to supply a telephone number to a service
4 control point; and
5 routing an incoming call to a telephone line identified by said
6 telephone number.

1 Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 22, wherein routing an incoming call
2 includes:
3 operating the service control point to send a message to a telephone
4 switch to route the incoming call using said telephone number.

Claims 24-25 (canceled):

1 Claim 26 (currently amended): The method of claim 23 ~~25~~, wherein the step of
2 operating the first computer to supply a telephone number to a service control point
3 includes:
4 selecting as said telephone number to be supplied to the service control
5 point, a telephone number corresponding to the party selected to service said
6 incoming call.